Chapter 1

Introduction

The EQT are designed to establish a common standard for skills that are unique to all combat engineers regardless of tables of organization and equipment (TOE) or component. These qualification tables add structure to unit training plans, articulate combat readiness, and help units compete for installation ranges and resources. The tables also assist the unit by outlining a training-readiness evaluation strategy for an individual, a squad, and a platoon. Establishing training and evaluation standards for engineer individuals, squads, and platoons allows for making efficient use of training resources, articulating readiness and, most importantly, ensuring a consistent battlefield result regardless of which engineer unit is in support.

The tables are designed to permit preliminary training, proficiency training, and qualification of engineer units. The tables begin by qualifying unit leaders to ensure that they are qualified to evaluate their soldiers on the required tasks. The tables then progress through the individual and squad, culminating with platoon qualification. The squad and platoon tables contain the foundation drills and tasks that combat engineer units must be able to accomplish in support of maneuver forces. The proficiency process supports premobilization as well as provides a means to define training readiness. The EQT can also be supported using lanes training.

This TC is organized into 12 tables that mirror the infantry and armor tables. For example, Tank Table VIII is the Intermediate Qualification Course; Engineer Table VIII is the Intermediate Proficiency Course. Both of these tables are designed as the final tables for their respective squads.

Authorizations from Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA Pam) 350-38 provide the basis of resource allocation for executing the tables. All units should be capable of executing the entire EQT using their current resource allocations. The goal of the EQT is to maximize the resources available while documenting the resources required to maintain a trained and ready force.

Engineers support maneuver units having extremely specialized missions. These missions may need to be encompassed in the EQT. A unit commander is encouraged to add drills or tasks to the EQT that will allow him to evaluate specialized missions as long as the basic tables remain the same.

Chapter 2 includes a sample scenario to assist units in executing the EQT. This scenario is not meant as an inclusive means of execution, but merely as one method of tying all the tasks into the context of a mission. Commanders are encouraged to write their own scenarios to reflect more directly their units' METL.

This TC's end state is to provide the Army with combat-ready engineer soldiers, squads, and platoons that are capable of mobilizing and deploying on short notice to fight and win.